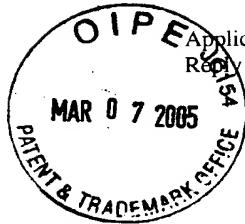


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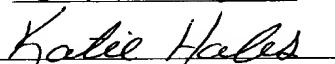


Application No. 09/738,251  
Reply to Office Action of February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hardesty, et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/738,251 ) Group Art Unit: 1764  
Filed: December 15, 2000 )  
For: EXHAUST MANIFOLD WITH ) Examiner: Tran, Hien Thi  
          CATALYTIC CONVERTER )  
          SHELL TUBE )

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Katie Hales

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)**

Sir:

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated 23 February 2005, and to which a response is due on 23 March 2005. Please amend the Application as follows:

**Amendment to Claims**, starting on pg. 2;

**Conclusion**, on pg. 4.